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FM AMEMBASSY KARUL

TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3R56

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 09 KARUL 1350

LITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLANDS; PARIS ALSO FOR USDAO;

PARMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAB, MS. MILLIKAN; THE HAGUE FOR

4-DAM AND R-DAM

100. 12356: DFCL: 8/3/93

PAGS: ASEC, MOPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINR, PINS, PROP, SREF, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JULY 27 - AUGUST 2)

REF: KARUL 1317

.. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)

.. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE BRIEFED TO JOURNALISTS  
EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE NOTED. (NOTE TO BRIEFERS IN ISLAMABAD,  
ISLAMABAD AND NEW DELHI: YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER CONCENTRATING  
ON SUMMARIES AND SELECTED EXCERPTS FROM PARAS 4 AND 5.)

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY John Keller

DATE 4/28/89

( ) RELEASE

( ) DECLASSIFY

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( ) DENY

( ) Non-responsive info.

FOI, 40 CFR, PA exemptions B1A3

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3. SUMMARY:

(A) (NOT TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS:) FIGHTING AROUND KARUL CONTINUED DURING THE WEEK WITH SHARP CLASHES IN THE PAGHMAN AREA AND AT MAIDAN SHAR. SECURITY IN KARUL WAS TIGHTER, POSSIBLY IN RESPONSE TO TWO EXPLOSIONS IN THE SOVIET AND PDPA CADRE RESIDENTIAL AREA IN EASTERN KARUL. FIGHTING IS ALSO REPORTED SOUTH AND EAST OF THE CITY. IN KANDAHAR MUJAHIDIN ROCKETS ALLEGEDLY DESTROYED A MAJOR REGIME GRAIN STORAGE FACILITY. THE CIVILIAN HOSPITAL IN THE CITY IS VIRTUALLY CLOSED. ELSEWHERE HEAVY FIGHTING IS REPORTED IN LOGAR, PAPHAN, TAKHAR AND PAKTIA. NAJIB'S ABSENCE FROM AFGHANISTAN HAS PROMPTED BROAD SPECULATION, BUT USUALLY RELIABLE EAST BLOC DIPLOMATS INSIST HE IS SIMPLY VACATIONING IN THE SOVIET UNION. UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, DR. FELIX ERMACORA, ARRIVED IN KARUL WHERE HE IS MEETING WITH REGIME OFFICIALS. HE REPORTEDLY WILL TRAVEL TO HERAT AND KHOST. A SOVIET DIPLOMAT CLAIMS HIGH SOVIET LOSSES IN JULY, PARTICULARLY AROUND KARUL. IN A PRESS INTERVIEW, THE PDPA CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF CLAIMS MUJAHIDIN HAVE VIOLATED THE "CEASE-FIRE" OVER 11,000 TIMES.

(B) (NOT TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS:) AN AFGHAN SOURCE CLAIMS THE SOVIETS ARE TRYING TO BUILD A "GOVERNMENT WITHOUT THE PARTY", WORKING THROUGH NON-PARTY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PAPHWAK WHO RECENTLY TRAVELED TO THE U.S. A SOVIET DIPLOMAT IMPLIED THE ACCOUNT HAD SOME SUBSTANCE. ERMACORA'S NINE DAY VISIT TO KARUL APPEARS TO ALLOT ONLY FIVE HOURS TO PRISON VISITS. DRA MEDIA HAVE GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO THE VISIT, INCLUDING HIS MANY MEETINGS WITH REGIME OFFICIALS. THE ICRC EXPECTS TO FORMALIZE AN AGREEMENT IN GENEVA THIS MONTH WITH THE DRA RED CRESCENT SOCIETY GOVERNING ICRC ASSISTANCE TO RED CRESCENT HOSPITALS IN KARUL. THE REGIME'S EXTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC FORAYS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN DERAILED BY VISA DENIALS IN SOME CAPITALS BUT HAVE APPARENTLY MET WITH SOME SUCCESS, ESPECIALLY IN AFRICA WHERE THE DRA REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.  
END SUMMARY.

4. KABUL PYROTECHNICS AND SECURITY:

AFGHANS RESIDENT IN SOUTH KARUL REPORT AN INFORMAL 2200 CURFEW IS IN EFFECT OBSERVED BY LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO INCREASING INSTANCES OF BURGLARIES AND ASSAULTS. RESIDENTS SUSPECT REGIME INVOLVEMENT, NOTING THAT PERPETRATORS APPEAR TO SLIP BY REGIME CHECKPOINTS AND MOVE ABOUT IN REGIME VEHICLES. EAST BLOC DIPLOMATS CLAIM THAT KARUL-BASED GUERRILLAS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR RECENT BOMBINGS AND OTHER NIGHT ATTACKS AGAINST REGIME AND SOVIET FACILITIES.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 09 KARUL 1350

-- JULY 27: DIPLOMATS HEARD ARTILLERY FIRE TO THE WEST BETWEEN 1645 AND 1745. AT 2120 TWO FAINT EXPLOSIONS AND ONE LOUD ONE WERE HEARD IN THE LARGELY SOVIET MICRORAYON AREA. THE EXPLOSIONS, WHICH OCCURRED AT A SHOE AND TANNING FACTORY, MIGHT HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY INCOMING ROCKETS OR AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING FLAMMABLE CHEMICALS. SABOTAGE, ALSO IS NOT RULED OUT. THE REGIME BLAMED THE BLASTS ON TECHNICAL PROBLEMS: WHILE THE REGIME CLAIMS THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES, AMBULANCES WERE NOTED AT THE FACTORY AT 2300. SOVIET AND DRA MILITARY ALSO RESPONDED TO THE BLAST WITH ARMORED VEHICLES RUSHING TO THE SCENE.

-- JULY 28: DIPLOMATS REPORT A BRIEF EXCHANGE OF MACHINE GUN FIRE AT 0100 IN SHAHE NAU. OVERNIGHT (JULY 28-29) MACHINE GUN FIRE WAS ALSO REPORTED NEAR THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

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-- JULY 30: AT APPROXIMATELY 0815 RELIABLE DIPLOMATS REPORTED TWICE HEARING THE ROAR OF MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS TO THE SOUTHWEST.

-- JULY 31: DIPLOMATS REPORTED OUTGOING ARTILLERY FROM THE NORTH BETWEEN 1100 AND 1300; A LOUD BLAST TO THE NORTHWEST AT 1430; ARTILLERY TO THE WEST BETWEEN 2230 AND 2300 AND ARTILLERY TO THE SOUTH BETWEEN 2300 AND 2320. AT 1900 THERE WAS A LOUD EXPLOSION IN EASTERN KABUL AND AN APPARENTLY RELATED CLOUD OF DUST AND SMOKE WHICH ROSE OVER THE MICROBAYON LOCATED SOUTH OF THE AIRPORT. SEVERAL AFGHANS ALSO PLACED THE EXPLOSION, APPARENTLY CAUSED BY A BOMB, IN THE MICROBAYON. DPA AND PLAIN-CLOTHES MILITIA CONDUCTED VEHICLE CHECKS ALONG PERIMETER ROAD THROUGH THE DAY AND AT NIGHT.

-- AUGUST 1: AT 0615 APPROXIMATELY 20 DRA TROOPS WERE POSITIONED AT THE WEST ENTRANCE TO THE PALACE COMPLEX, APPARENTLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONVENING OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL. SARANDOI CONDUCTED VEHICLE CHECKS THROUGH THE DAY AND NIGHT ON PERIMETER ROAD. SOVIETS MANNED SOME CHECK POINTS IN SOUTHWEST KABUL OVERNIGHT.

-- AUGUST 2: SARANDOI CHECKPOINTS WERE NOTED ALONG PERIMETER ROAD DURING THE DAY. SOVIET PTR'S APPEARED IN DEFENSIVE POSITIONS AROUND THE LARGE SOVIET CAMP AT THE INTERSECTION OF PERIMETER AND SALANG ROADS.

#### 5. MILITARY MOVEMENT IN THE KABUL AREA:

(A) (AIR): DESPITE DAILY AND NIGHTLY ARTILLERY AND ROCKET FIRE FROM SOVIET AND DRA POSITIONS IN AND NEAR KABUL, WHICH CORROBORATED REPORTS OF CONTINUED SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING NEAR KABUL, SOVIET AND DRA HELICOPTER ACTIVITY REMAINED RELATIVELY LIGHT, LIMITED LARGELY TO ROUTINE ESCORT FOR ARRIVING AND DEPARTING IL-76'S AND TU-154'S. SOME HELICOPTER FLIGHTS TO THE WEST PRESUMABLY WERE SUPPORTING UNITS IN PAGHMAN AND NORTHERN WARDAK. DURING THE WEEK 24 IL-76'S ARRIVED AND DEPARTED, DOWN SLIGHTLY FROM 32 THE PREVIOUS WEEK. THE 112 IL-76'S OBSERVED ARRIVING AND DEPARTING IN JULY WERE VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL TO JUNE'S 111.

--JULY 27: THREE IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

--JULY 28: TWO IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

--JULY 29: ONE IL-76 ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

--JULY 30: FIVE IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

--JULY 31: FOUR IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED, INCLUDING ONE WHICH DEPARTED AT 2017 IN A RARE EVENING IL-76 DEPARTURE.

--AUGUST 1: SIX IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED

--AUGUST 2: SEVEN IL-76'S ARRIVED THEN DEPARTED.

#### (B) (VEHICULAR MOVEMENT:)

--JULY 24: FROM 1744 TO 1947: A SOVIET CONVOY MOVED

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FROM WESTERN KABUL TOWARD THE NORTH THROUGH KARTE PARWAN,  
INCLUDING 61 TRUCKS, 95 FUEL TANKERS, 12 ZU-23 GUN TRUCKS,  
TEN PTR'S AND SIX TOWED ARTILLERY PIECES. IT WAS FOLLOWED BY  
ANOTHER SOVIET CONVOY WHICH INCLUDED 60 PTR'S, 70 BMP'S  
AND 20 FUEL TANKERS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 09 KARUL 1350

--JULY 27: AT 0515 A DIPLOMAT OBSERVED A SOVIET ARMORED UNIT BIVOUAC NEAR THE SOVIET REHABILITATION CENTER ON PERIMETER ROAD. (SEE ENTRY FOR JULY 28 FOR COMPOSITION.) A SOVIET CONVOY CONTAINING AMONG OTHER VEHICLES 40 BMP'S WAS REPORTED MOVING THROUGH THE KARULAMAN AREA.

-- JULY 28: AT 0515 THE SOVIET CONVOY OF APPROXIMATELY 130 VEHICLES, WHICH HAD BIVOUACED OVERNIGHT ON PERIMETER ROAD. (SEE ENTRY FOR JULY 27) WAS OBSERVED MOVING THROUGH KARUL TO THE LUGAR ROAD. IT INCLUDED T-62 TANKS, BMP'S, BTR'S (70'S AND 60'S), BM-21 MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS AND TOWED D-30 GUNS. AT 0540 A SOVIET CONVOY -- HALF THE VEHICLES OF WHICH WERE ARMORED AND TWO BM-27 MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS LEFT PERIMETER ROAD HEADED EAST ON JALALAHAD ROAD. AT 1600 APPROXIMATELY 100 VEHICLES, HALF ARMORED, TURNED ONTO PERIMETER FROM JALALAHAD ROAD. THE DUSTY SOVIET COLUMN INCLUDED SIX 152 MM SELF-PROPELLED GUNS, SIX BM-21'S, BTR'S, SEVERAL MT LR ARTILLERY CONTROL VEHICLES.

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AND PTR'S RIGGED FOR COMMUNICATIONS. TOWED D-30 GUNS AND A TOWED SATELLITE DISH WERE ALSO NOTED. FROM 1625 TO 1715 AN A2-VECHICLE SOVIET CONVOY MOVED FROM NORTH TO WEST THROUGH KARTE PARWAN. IT INCLUDED 42 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS (AMP'S AND PTR'S), 23 TRUCKS AND 17 TRUCK-TOWED GUNS. AT 1630 APPROXIMATELY 90 SOVIET VEHICLES, INCLUDING SIX 122MM GUNS AND SEVERAL TOWED VEHICLES, MOVED FROM JALALABAD ONTO PERIMETER ROAD.

--JULY 31: AT 1315 APPROXIMATELY 50 SOVIET FUEL TRUCKS MOVED FROM SALANG ROAD TO THE UNDERGROUND OIL STORAGE AREA NORTH OF THE SOVIET RAHABILITATION CENTER ON PERIMETER ROAD.

--AUGUST 1: AT 0515 TWENTY SOVIET TRUCKS (UNIT ID 0012) MOVED FROM PERIMETER TO JALALABAD ROAD. AT 0525 A SOVIET CONVOY (UNIT ID 1451) OF COVERED TRUCKS AND A DPA TRUCK CONVOY WERE STAGED NORTH ON THE SALANG ROAD. AT THE SAME TIME A CONVOY OF OVER 40 SOVIET TRUCKS (UNIT ID 1123) TURNED ONTO PERIMETER FROM THE SALANG ROAD. THE VEHICLES ALL CARRIED AMMO, INCLUDING EIGHT WHICH TRANSPORTED 220 MM ROCKETS.

-- AUGUST 2: AT 1130 APPROXIMATELY 50 SOVIET FUEL TANKERS WERE OBSERVED STAGED NORTH ON THE SALANG ROAD.

--COMBAT IN THE PROVINCES --

6. KABUL PROVINCE: (FOR KABUL CITY DEVELOPMENTS SEE PARAS 4.5)

(A) (KABUL-WEST:) AN AFGHAN CONTACT AND A DRA MILITARY OFFICER REPORTED HEAVY FIGHTING IN PAGHMAN DURING THE EVENING OF JULY 28. THE OFFICER NOTED THAT DURING THE WEEK DRA UNITS HAD RETURNED TO THE AREA NEAR KARGHA LAKE BUT THAT SOVIET TROOPS REMAINED POSITIONED ATOP HILLS IN THE AREA. (DIPLOMATS OBSERVED SOVIET ARMOR, GUNS AND TROOPS ON THE HILLS.) HE EXPLAINED THAT APPROXIMATELY 500 METERS WEST OF KARGHA LAKE SARANDOI AND REGULAR DPA ARMY UNITS WERE POSITIONED ALONG A NORTH-SOUTH LINE. APPROXIMATELY ONE KM WEST OF THIS LINE KHAD (MINISTRY OF STATE SECURITY) FORCES WERE DUG IN IN A DEFENSIVE FRONT VISIBLE FROM KARGHA LAKE. BEYOND THAT, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICER, MUJAHIDIN OCCUPY THE PLAINS EAST OF PAGHMAN TOWN AND THE HILLS TO THE WEST. SEPARATELY, AFGHAN SOURCES CLAIM THAT DURING THE DAY SOVIETS OCCASIONALLY MAN CHECKPOINTS IN THE AREA ALONG WITH DRA FORCES. AT NIGHT THE SOVIET PULL BACK. ONE AFGHAN CLAIMS THAT DRA OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO UNITS WEST OF KABUL GENERALLY DO NOT WEAR RANK INSIGNIA IN THE FIELD SO AS TO OBTAIN BETTER TREATMENT FROM MUJAHIDIN IF CAPTURED.

(B) (KABUL-SOUTH:) AN AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTED THAT MUJAHIDIN CAPTURED 20 PDPA CADRE NEAR A DRA BASE IN THE CHAMAP ASIAR AREA (34°24'N 69°09'E) ON JULY 27. ALSO, ACCORDING TO AN AFGHAN SOURCE, HEAVY FIGHTING OCCURRED NEAR YAKDARA AND KARTE NAU SOUTHEAST OF KABUL.

(C) (KABUL NORTH:) A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTED THAT DURING THE THIRD WEEK OF JULY FOUR SENIOR DRA

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OFFICERS WERE KILLED AND THEIR 20-MAN ESCORT CAPTURED  
IN THE GADARAGH AREA WHEN THE OFFICERS ATTEMPTED  
TO INSPECT AN AREA OF RECENT FIGHTING.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 04 OF 09 KARUL 1350

(J) (KARUL-EAST:) AN AFGHAN SOURCE AND A DIPLOMAT REPORTED THAT ON JULY 28 MUJAHIDIN ROCKETED THE DRA HYDROELECTRIC STATION AT MAHIPAR (34°39'N 69°42'E). THE AFGHAN REPORTS THAT THE ATTACK WAS REDUCED ELECTRIC SERVICE TO KARUL. THE SHAPE NAU AREA EXPERIENCED ELECTRICITY OUTAGES REPEATEDLY DURING THE WEEK. A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTED THAT BESIDES THE SOVIET POSTS OVERRUN BY MUJAHIDIN IN THE SORUR AREA JULY 7-9, MUJAHIDIN ALSO DESTROYED THE SOVIET BASE AT MASHAL, NEAR THE KARUL-JALABAD ROAD.

7. KANDAHAR: ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT, MUJAHIDIN HIT A DRA GRAIN STORAGE FACILITY CAUSING 300 MILLION AFGHANIS DAMAGE. AN AFGHAN SOURCE FROM KANDAHAR AND A MILITARY ATTACHE IN KARUL CONFIRMED THAT MUJAHIDIN DOWNED A MILITARY TRANSPORT AT KANDAHAR AIRPORT ON OR ABOUT JULY 25. THE AFGHAN CLAIMS THE AIRCRAFT WAS HIT OVER PASHAL AND ATTEMPTED

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TO LAND HIT CRASHED KILLING ALL 20-25 ABOARD. MOST OF THE PASSENGERS WERE SENIOR SOVIET AND DRA MILITARY PERSONNEL, ACCORDING TO THE AFGHAN SOURCE. BOTH THE ATTACHE AND THE AFGHAN CLAIM THAT SINCE MID-JULY PILOTS FOR BAKHTAR AIRLINES HAVE REFUSED TO FLY THE REGULAR KABUL TO KANDAHAR ROUTE BECAUSE THEY CONSIDER IT TOO DANGEROUS. THE ATTACHE ADDS THAT ANOTHER FACTOR IS THAT BAKHTAR'S FLIGHTS OF HAJ PILGRIMS TO SAUDI ARABIA HAVE TAXED THE AIRLINE'S RESOURCES. A KANDAHAR RESIDENT CLAIMS THAT THE LAST THREE MONTHS OF FIGHTING IN AND AROUND KANDAHAR HAS CAUSED SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE TO THE CITY. HE CLAIMS APPROXIMATELY 2000 DRA TROOPS DESERTED IN THE TWO MONTHS OF FIGHTING. HE ALSO CONFIRMED PREVIOUS REPORTS THAT THE SOVIETS AND DRA HAVE BULLDOZED 900M SWATHS IN THE KANDAHAR OUTSKIRTS, INCLUDING ONE 500 METER WIDE STRETCH THAT FORMS A BROAD FIELD OF FIRE BETWEEN THE CITY AND MALAJAT WHERE SOME OF THE MOST INTENSE FIGHTING DURING THE EARLY SUMMER OCCURRED. ALSO AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE SHERPUR GATE AREA IS DESTROYED. REPORTEDLY THE ONLY CIVILIAN HOSPITAL IS PRACTICALLY CLOSED DUE TO THE COLLAPSE OF THE FACILITY'S ADMINISTRATION. SIX PATIENTS REMAIN IN THE HOSPITAL. ANOTHER KANDAHARI NOTES THAT SUPPORTERS OF MUJAHIDIN TURNCOAT ESMATULLAH MUSLIM CONTROL THE ROAD BETWEEN SPIN BALDAK AND KANDAHAR, OPERATING 35 CHECKPOINTS. IN LIEU OF CUSTOMS DUTIES IMPORTERS MUST PAY BRIBES TO KANDAHAR CUSTOMS OFFICIALS: 35,000 AFGHANIS FOR A CONTAINER OF TIRES AND 100,000 FOR A CONTAINER WITH ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT. SUGAR, PETROL AND KEROSENE ARE UNAVAILABLE IN THE CITY.

8. LOGAR: AN AFGHAN WHO REGULARLY REPORTS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN LOGAR CLAIMS THAT ON JULY 24 OR 25 DRA FORCES BURNED A LARGE AREA OF STANDING WHEAT IN THE MODARA-DEH NAI AREA (NEAR PUL-I-ALAM). THE WHEAT BELONGED TO FARMERS WHOM THE REGIME CONSIDERED PRO-MUJAHIDIN. THE SAME SOURCE REPORTS MAJOR FIGHTING BETWEEN MUJAHIDIN AND SOVIET/DRA TROOPS JULY 31 IN THENAMANYU7 (32°22'N 69°37'E)/DASHTI SAQAW AREA. BOTH SIDES SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES.

9. PARWAN: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT IN THE KANG-DO SHAKH AREA (35°28'N 69°00'E) MUJAHIDIN AND SOVIET/DRA FORCES ENGAGED IN A TWO-DAY BATTLE (JULY 22-24). INCLUDED AMONG THE MANY CASUALTIES WERE AT LEAST TWO SOVIET OFFICERS. TRAFFIC ON THE SALANG ROAD WAS BLOCKED FOR THE TWO DAYS OF FIGHTING. AN AFGHAN REPORTS HEAVY FIGHTING BETWEEN SOVIET AND MUJAHIDIN AT KOKHISTAN JULY 19.

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FM AMEMBASSY KARZ

TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3959

RUEHNF/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 5544

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6868

INFO RUEHHU/AFGHAN MAP COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 1970

RUEHCH/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1803

RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1352

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RUEHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUEHQA/USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

RUEHQA/USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 04 OF 09 KARUL 1350

(2) (KARUL-EAST:) AN AFGHAN SOURCE AND A DIPLOMAT REPORTED THAT ON JULY 28 MUJAHIDIN ROCKETED THE DRA HYDROELECTRIC STATION AT MAHJAR (34°30'N 69°42'E). THE AFGHAN REPORTS THAT THE ATTACK WAS REDUCED ELECTRIC SERVICE TO KABUL. THE SHAHE NAU AREA EXPERIENCED ELECTRICITY OUTAGES REPEATEDLY DURING THE WEEK. A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTED THAT BESIDES THE SOVIET POSTS OVERGUN BY MUJAHIDIN IN THE SORJAT AREA JULY 7-9, MUJAHIDIN ALSO DESTROYED THE SOVIET BASE AT MASHAL, NEAR THE KABUL-JALALABAD ROAD.

7. KANDAHAR: ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT, MUJAHIDIN HIT A DRA GRAIN STORAGE FACILITY CAUSING 300 MILLION AFGHANIS DAMAGE. AN AFGHAN SOURCE FROM KANDAHAR AND A MILITARY ATTACHE IN KABUL CONFIRMED THAT MUJAHIDIN DOWNED A MILITARY TRANSPORT AT KANDAHAR AIRPORT ON OR ABOUT JULY 25. THE AFGHAN CLAIMS THE AIRCRAFT WAS HIT OVER PASHMAL AND ATTEMPTED

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PT 03074 215/11447 PAGE 01

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ZNY CCCCC 22H  
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TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3460  
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RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1353  
RUEHNOA/USCINCPAC VAIHINGEN GE  
RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG MC AFVS//POE//SR  
RUEHQQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
RUEFAAA/CINCSAREHE HEIDELBERG GE  
RUEFAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE  
RUEFAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO  
RUEORRA/USAMP SHAPE RE//INTAFF//  
RUEJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-10M//  
RUEOLEA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP  
RUELENA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//  
RUEHCS-H/USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 05 OF 00 KARUL 1359

11. PAKTIA: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT WITH GOOD ACCESS TO INFORMATION FROM THE EASTERN BORDER REGIONS STATES THAT ON JULY 22 DRA FORCES ATTACKED MUJAHIDIN IN THE GHALZAI-KUNTAH AREA (NEAR GARDEZ). DRA FORCES OCCUPIED THE MUJAHIDIN CAMP BUT WERE SUBSEQUENTLY DRIVEN OUT BY REINFORCED MUJAHIDIN WHO COUNTERATTACKED ON JULY 24. IN THE COUNTERATTACK THE DRA SUFFERED MANY KILLED AND 63 WERE CAPTURED OR SURRENDERED. A DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT MUJAHIDIN DOWNED A SOVIET AIRCRAFT JULY 21 IN THE OMHANA AREA (NEAR GARDEZ). THE PILOT WHO WAS CAPTURED WAS LATER EXECUTED. THE FOLLOWING DAY THE AREA CAME UNDER HEAVY BOMBARDMENT. A SEPARATE REPORT CLAIMS HEAVY FIGHTING CURRENTLY IN THE KHOST AREA. (COMMENT: SEE REPORT OF CONTINUED FIGHTING IN PAKTIA IN PARA 12.

12. NANGAPHAR: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT

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ON JULY 29 JALALABAD AIRPORT WAS CLOSED TO CIVILIAN AIR TRAFFIC AS MILITARY OPERATIONS WERE LAUNCHED FROM THE AIRPORT, APPARENTLY TARGETTED AGAINST PAKTIA.

13. GHAZNI: ON JULY 24 MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED A SOVIET JEEP IN THE OLD BAZAR OF GHAZNI TOWN, KILLING THE THREE SOVIET OCCUPANTS.

14. JARPAK: AN AFGHAN WHO HAS REPORTED ACCURATELY ON DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTHERN WARDAK CLAIMS HEAVY FIGHTING OCCURRED IN THE MAIDAN SHAR AREA ON JULY 28-29. MUJAHIDIN REPORTEDLY SEIZED THE INITIATIVE, ATTACKING TWO NEW SOVIET OUTPOSTS NEAR MAIDAN SHAR. SOVIET HELICOPTERS ATTEMPTING TO SUPPORT SOVIET OPERATIONS IN THE AREA NO LONGER FLY TO MAIDAN SHAR BUT RATHER ONLY AS FAR AS TWO FORK FROM THE KARUL-GHAZNI ROAD TO MAIDAN SHAR. APPROXIMATELY FIFTY KMS FROM THE TOWN. FIGHTING IN THE AREA ON JULY 28-29 BLOCKED TRAFFIC ON THE KABUL-GHAZNI ROAD.

#### 15. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

(A) (NAJIB IN MOSCOW:) RUMORS AROUND IN KARUL ABOUT NAJIB'S EXTENDED ABSENCE. ONE PROMINENT RUMOR CLAIMS THAT SHORTLY HE WILL BE JOINED BY OTHER SENIOR MINISTERS. EAST PLOC DIPLOMATS INSIST THAT NAJIB SIMPLY IS ON VACATION. THERE ARE CONTRADICTORY EAST PLOC CLAIMS THAT HE WILL RETURN ON AUGUST 9 OR 19. (SEE KARUL MEDIA PARA 20 A.)

(B) (KARMAL TO RETURN:) A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT CLAIMS THAT GABRIEL KARMAL MAY RETURN TO KARUL TO HEAD HIS OWN POLITICAL PARTY. (COMMENT: WE ARE SKEPTICAL.)

(C) (SENIOR CADRE SEEK TO ENSURE THEIR POSITIONS:) AN AFGHAN WITH CLOSE CONTACTS WITH REGIME AND PARTY CADRE CLAIMS MANY SENIOR PARTY AND REGIME OFFICIALS ARE WORKING HARD TO COLLECT MONEY TO FINANCE FLIGHT ABROAD OR TO ENABLE THEM TO "LIVE LIKE MICE IN THE HOUSE". OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR ISSUING PASSPORTS REPORTEDLY ARE CHARGING UP TO 100,000 AFGHANIS PER PASSPORT.

(D) (FOREIGN MINISTER AGAIN ILL:) AN EAST PLOC DIPLOMAT CLAIMS THAT FOREIGN MINISTER WAKIL HAS NOT RECOVERED FULLY FROM HIS APPENDICITIS OF EARLY JUNE AND THAT RECENTLY HE SUFFERED FURTHER COMPLICATIONS FROM THE OPERATION. HIS NEW DEPUTY, FARUQ KARZAND, PREVIOUSLY AMBASSADOR TO POLAND, AND, MOST RECENTLY VIETNAM, WHILE HOLDING THE EUROPEAN AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO, RECENTLY HAS SERVED PRIMARILY AS AIDE DE CAMP TO THE AILING WAKIL.

#### 16. MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS:

(A) (SOVIETS SPEAK OF HEAVY MILITARY LOSSES:) A SOVIET

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DIPLOMAT CLAIMS THAT SOVIET FORCES IN JULY SUFFERED  
"GREAT LOSSES" AROUND KARUL.

(P) (JALALABAD ROAD CLOSED FREQUENTLY:) AFGHAN SOURCES  
REPORT THAT THE KARUL-JALALABAD ROAD WAS CLOSED  
FREQUENTLY DURING JULY DUE TO FIGHTING, ESPECIALLY  
THE JULY 4 TO 9 MUJAHIDI OFFENSIVE ALONG A 60 KM STRETCH  
OF THE ROAD (REPORTED PARA AC, REFTEL).

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FM AMEMBASSY KARUL

TO RUEHILG/AMEMBASSY ISI AMARAD IMMEDIATE 3860

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 5545

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6865

INFO RUEHNU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 1910

RUEHCH/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1908

RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1353

RUSVNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

RUCLAKA/FT RPAGE NC AFVS//POE//SR

RUEHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUEHAAA/CINCSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RUEHAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

RUEHAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO

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RUEHJACC/USCENTCOM MACBELL AFB FL//CCJ2-10M//

RUEHLEA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 05 OF 09 KARUL 1359

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12. NANGA PAK: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT ON JULY 29 JALALABAD AIRPORT WAS CLOSED TO CIVILIAN AIR TRAFFIC AS MILITARY OPERATIONS WERE

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LAUNCHED FROM THE AIRPORT, APPARENTLY TARGETTED AGAINST PAKTIA.

13. GHAZNI: ON JULY 26 MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED A SOVIET JEEP IN THE OLD BAZAAR OF GHAZNI TOWN, KILLING THE THREE SOVIET OCCUPANTS.

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FM AMEMBASSY KARUL

TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 3461

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 5546

RUEHOC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6866

INFO RUEHHU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUEHII/USIA WASHDC 1411

RUEHOM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1895

RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1354

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RUEHAAA/CINCSAPEUR HEIDELBERG GE

RUEHAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AR GE

RUEHAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AR GE//INCO

RUEHOPA/USNMR SHAPE RE//INTAFF//

RUEHJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-10M//

RUEHLEA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

RUEHMAA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 04 OF 00 KARUL 1350

(C) (UPGRADING MILITARY ROADS IN KARUL:) OPA CREWS  
HAVE WORKED FOR TEN DAYS RESURFACING MOST OF PERIMETER ROAD  
AND HARD SURFACING FOR THE FIRST TIME THE 200 METERS OF  
THE SALANG ENTERING DEHKEPAK (NORTHERN KARUL). CONCRETE POLES  
ABOUT THREE TO FOUR METERS LONG HAVE BEEN INSTALLED ALONG  
PERIMETER ROAD, POSSIBLY TO EXTEND ELECTRICITY OR COMMO LINES.

(D) (SOVIET PERSONNEL ARRIVING IN SOUTHERN KARUL:) A  
RELIABLE AFGHAN STATES THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF SOVIET  
MILITARY PERSONNEL AND SOME SOVIET CIVILIANS WITH FAMILIES  
HAVE BEGUN ARRIVING AT THE SPRAWLING SOVIET CAMP SOUTH OF  
DARULAMAN NEAR TAPE TAUREG. THIS REPORT, AS YET  
UNCONFIRMED, CLAIMS THAT THE SOVIET PERSONNEL COME FROM  
HERAT, KANDAHAR AND ELSEWHERE IN AFGHANISTAN.

17. HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS

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(A) (ERMACOPA IN KABUL:) THE UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR FOR AFGHANISTAN ARRIVED IN KABUL JULY 30. HE HAS SPENT MOST OF HIS TIME HERE WITH REGIME OFFICIALS AND ON A STANDARD REGIME-ORGANIZED TOUR VISITING THE CONFISCATED WEAPONS MUSEUM AND ATTENDING A YOUNG PIONEERS MEETING. REPORTS INDICATE HE MAY TRAVEL TO KHOST AND HERAT (HE WAS DENIED PERMISSION TO GO TO KANDAHAR). HE REPORTEDLY WILL VISIT PUL-I-CHAPARI PRISON ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 3. HE IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE AFGHANISTAN AUGUST 8 WITH A SECOND VISIT POSSIBLE IN LATE 1987 OR EARLY 1988.

(B) (THREATS TO YOUTH IN KABUL:) PRESSGANGS CONTINUE OPERATIONS IN THE CITY. ONE PRESSGANG WAS OBSERVED IN OPERATION AT 2231 ON JULY 22 ON JAMI MAIJAND NEAR THE OLD CITY. A FATHER REPORTS HIS SON WAS PICKED UP AS HE VISITED A HOSPITALIZED FRIEND. (COMMENT: SEE PARA 100 FOR REPORT ON EXPLOITATION OF AFGHAN CHILDREN FOR LABOR AND PARA 190 FOR REPORT ON DEPARTURE OF 1,000 YOUTHS TO THE SOVIET UNION.)

(C) (AFGHANS PROTEST TREATMENT OF MILITARY PATIENTS:) A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE CLAIMS THAT FAMILIES OF WOUNDED DPA TROOPS AT THE 401-RED MILITARY HOSPITAL IN WATIR AKBAR KHAN PROTESTED CONDITIONS THERE ON AUGUST 1 AND 2. FAMILIES REPORTEDLY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO VISIT SOME PATIENTS, APPARENTLY BECAUSE OF THE VERY BAD CONDITIONS AT THE HOSPITAL. MEDICAL TREATMENT IS MINIMAL WITH MANY PATIENTS LYING UNATTENDED IN UNLIT, INADEQUATELY VENTILATED "WAITING AREAS." FAMILIES ARE NOT PERMITTED TO DISCHARGE THEIR RELATIVES FROM THE HOSPITAL TO RECEIVE BETTER CARE ELSEWHERE, AND IN SOME CASES HAVE FACED DELAYS IN RETRIEVING THE REMAINS OF RELATIVES WHO HAVE DIED AT THE HOSPITAL.

19. (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS:)

(A) (REGIME FAILS TO PROVIDE SUBSIDIZED GOODS FOR CANPE:) AFGHANS REPORT THE REGIME HAS NOT FULFILLED ITS PLEDGE TO PROVIDE SUBSIDIZED STAPLES SUCH AS RICE, FLOUR AND SUGAR TO REGIME AND PARTY CANPE. THE REGIME'S FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE COMMODITIES WHICH IT PLEDGED JULY 23 TO TURN OVER FREE-OF-CHARGE HAS STIRRED MUCH CRITICISM.

(B) (WATER OUTAGES:) RESIDENTS OF DISTRICTS IN SOUTHWEST KABUL REPORTEDLY WERE WITHOUT WATER FOR FOUR DAYS IN LATE JULY REQUIRING RESUPPLY BY SOVIET WATER TRUCK CONVOYS WHICH WERE OBSERVED MOVING THROUGH KABUL TO THE SOUTH ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.

(C) (MARKET SURVEY:) PRICES FOR MOST STAPLES REMAINED RELATIVELY UNCHANGED IN JULY WHILE THE DOLLAR AND OTHER MAJOR CURRENCIES FELL IN VALUE AGAINST THE AFGHANI, NOW AT 172 PER DOLLAR. THE FALL PROBABLY REFLECTS REDUCED DEMAND FOR THE DOLLAR AND OTHER HARD CURRENCIES

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YOU THAT THE LAST FLIGHT OF HAJ PILGRIMS HAS LEFT KARUL.

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 RHFQAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AR GE  
 RHFQAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AR GE//TNCO  
 RUDORRA/USVMR SHAPE RE//INTAFF//  
 RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IO//  
 RUEOLEA/OFFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP  
 RUCLFNA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 07 OF 09 KABUL 1359

19. KABUL MEDIA:

(A) (NAJIB AND OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS OUT OF PUBLIC VIEW:) KABUL MEDIA HAVE GIVEN NO INDICATION AS TO THE WHEREABOUTS AND ACTIVITIES OF NAJIB SINCE HE VISITED KRASNODAR JULY 21 ON WHAT WAS BILLED AS A "SHORT VISIT" TO THE SOVIET UNION. KESHMAND AND MINISTER OF INTERIOR GULABZO HAVE ALSO NOT APPEARED IN THE DAILY PAPERS OR TELEVISION SINCE NAJIB'S JULY 19TH DEPARTURE. THE ABSENCES HAVE SPARKED WIDESPREAD SPECULATION AND RUMORS. ON JULY 24 A JULY 15 SPEECH BY NAJIB ON THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION WAS TELEvised AND ARTICLES CONTINUE TO MENTION THESE OFFICIALS.

(B) (ERMACORA VISIT RECEIVING EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE:) SINCE HIS ARRIVAL ON JULY 30, UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR DR. FELIX ERMACORA HAS BEEN RECEIVING EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE. THE NIGHTLY NEWS HAS SHOWN HIM MEETING WITH OFFICIALS FROM VARIOUS SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS VISITING THE MUSEUM OF CAPTURED

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WEAPONS, AND MEETING WITH YOUNG PIONEERS. ERMACORA HAS ALSO REPORTEDLY MET WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER, THE HEAD OF THE SPECIAL REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNALS, AND A DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

(C) (CHILDREN DEPART FOR SUMMER "VACATIONS" IN SOVIET UNION:) TELEVISION NEWS SHOWED THE DEPARTURE OF 1000 CHILDREN ON FIVE AEROFLOT AIRCRAFT JULY 27 AND 28. THESE CHILDREN, TOGETHER WITH ANOTHER 700, WILL SPEND ONE MONTH "RESTING" IN THE SOVIET CENTRAL ASIAN REPUBLICS. THE NUMBER SENT THIS YEAR, ACCORDING TO KABUL MEDIA, IS 200 MORE THAN WENT LAST SUMMER.

(D) (TEENAGE STUDENTS SPEND VACATIONS IN CONSTRUCTION BRIGADES:) REGIME MEDIA REPORT THAT 2100 YOUTH WILL SPEND 45 DAYS WORKING IN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE KABUL AREA AND AT THE KOKCHA IRRIGATION PROJECT IN BADAKHSHAN PROVINCE. (COMMENT: ONE MAN WHOSE SON IS PARTICIPATING IN A CONSTRUCTION BRIGADE DESCRIBES THIS AS FORCED LABOR WHERE THE STUDENTS HAVE NO OPTION BUT TO PARTICIPATE AND ARE PAID 30 AFS A DAY, ONE TENTH WHAT LABORERS ARE NORMALLY PAID FOR SUCH WORK.)

(E) (ANAHITA LOOSES ANOTHER POST:) HAFIZ MANGAL, RECENTLY REPLACED AS DPA AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW, HAS BEEN NAMED HEAD OF THE PEACE, SOLIDARITY AND FRIENDSHIP ORGANIZATION, A POSITION FORMERLY HELD BY ANAHITA RATERZAD. SINCE BEING NAMED, MANGAL HAS APPEARED IN THE TELEVISION NEWS TWO TIMES, SUGGESTING THAT WITH ANAHITA GONE, THE HEAD OF THE PSFO WILL BE PLAYING A MORE PROMINENT PUBLIC ROLE.

(F) (KESHTMAND CRITICIZES LOCAL ELECTIONS AND NRA:) ON JULY 27 KABUL PAPERS CARRIED THE TEXT OF A SPEECH DELIVERED BY PRIME MINISTER KESHTMAND JULY 4 BEFORE THE SUPREME COMMISSION FOR PREPARATION AND HOLDING OF ELECTIONS. HE CRITICIZES THE FAILURE OF LOCAL OFFICIALS AND "ACTIVISTS" TO SHARE POWER AND ALSO PERHAPS STATE EMPLOYEES WHO REGARD NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AS "MERELY A PARTY CAUSE." KESHTMAND DESCRIBES LOCAL "ELECTIONS" AS MONOTONOUS AND FORMAL AND CRITICIZES THE OPGA OPERS FOR LACKING INITIATIVE. HE ALSO CLAIMS THAT SOVIET GRATIS ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN HAS INCREASED TEN FOLD WITHIN ONE YEAR AND DESCRIBES "THE NEW FORM OF COOPERATION OF THE SOVIET UNION" AND THE NRA "THAT IS DIRECT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PROVINCES OF THE NRA AND THE USSR."

(G) (AFGHAN-SOVIET SPACE FLIGHT:) AN ARTICLE DESCRIBING THE OUTCOME OF THE RECENT VISIT TO MOSCOW BY NAJIB MENTIONS THE SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED A READINESS TO ARRANGE FOR A JOINT SOVIET-AFGHAN SPACE FLIGHT.

(H) (HASHISH SHIPMENT SEIZED:) ON JULY 20, 4129 KILOGRAMS OF HASHISH CONCEALED IN SACKS OF ALMONDS WERE SEIZED FROM A TRUCK IN KABUL. THE HASHISH WAS REPORTEDLY DESTINED FOR SHIPMENT TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

(I) (THREE REPORTED KILLED IN KUNAR PROVINCE:) A JULY 27 ARTICLE REPORTS THAT THREE PEOPLE WERE KILLED WHEN SURFACE-TO-SURFACE ROCKETS STRUCK A VILLAGE IN SARKANI DISTRICT, KUNAR PROVINCE.

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NON-PARTY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, HASSAN SHARQ, ACCORDING TO THIS ACCOUNT, MIGHT BECOME DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IN THIS GOVERNMENT. A SOVIET DIPLOMAT (SEE FOLLOWING ITEM) COMMENTED THAT WORKING THROUGH NON-PARTY AFGHANS WAS DIFFICULT FOR THE SOVIETS BECAUSE PARTY LEADERS (SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING NAJIB, ZEARY AND KESHTMAND) WOULD TRY TO "PUSH SUCH AFGHANS UNDERFOOT" IF IT WERE CLEAR THE SOVIETS WERE TRYING TO WORK SEPARATELY WITH THEM. THE SOVIET ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PAZHWAK WAS SEEKING CONTACT WITH PROMINENT AFGHANS ABROAD AND MENTIONED THAT THE ZARULI FAMILY WAS INVOLVED. THE AFGHAN SOURCE FOR THE ABOVE SENSED THAT "SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN SOON."

(C) (REMARKS BY SOVIET DIPLOMAT:) A SOVIET DIPLOMAT SAID RECENTLY AT A RECEPTION THAT THE SOVIET UNION FOUND WORKING WITH PDPA EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF MEMBERS' LAZINESS AND CORRUPTION. HE FAULTED CORRUPTION AMONG THE AFGHANS AS THE PRINCIPAL REASON THAT "ALL OUR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE HAS DONE NO GOOD." HE ADDED "THEY EXPECT US TO DO EVERYTHING." CONCERNING THAT THE MUJAHIDIN REJECTED NAJIB AS AN INTERLOCUTOR, HE OBSERVED "BUT NAJIB IS NOT FOREVER." COMMENTING ON PDPA VIABILITY, HE ASKED RHETORICALLY, "HOW LONG COULD THEY REMAIN IF 12 PERCENT MAYBE TWO HOURS?" HE OBSERVED THAT "WHAT IS BAD FOR US IS NOT AUTOMATICALLY GOOD FOR THE U.S. WE WERE WRONG NOT TO HELP THE U.S. WHEN THEY TOOK HOSTAGES IN IRAN. BUT HERE IF GULBUDDIN HAS POWER/IT IS BAD FOR US BUT MAYBE FOR AMERICA TOO. ...AFGHANISTAN MUST BE FRIENDLY TO US." THE SOVIET HALF-HEARTEDLY ATTEMPTED TO PERSUADE HIS INTERLOCUTOR THAT THE U.S. WAS MISTAKEN TO DISMISS "NATIONAL RECONCILIATION" BECAUSE IT WAS BUYING TIME FOR NAJIB TO CONSOLIDATE HIS CONTROL. HE ABANDONED THIS TACK WHEN ASKED IF HE THOUGHT NR WAS IN FACT WORKING.

(D) (DRA DIPLOMATIC FORAYS:) THE DRA CHIEF OF PROTOCOL (KARTIMZADAH) AND THE CHIEF OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DIVISION (KHAIPARI) ARE ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE A SIX-NATION TOUR THROUGH SOUTHEAST ASIA TO BUILD SUPPORT FOR THE DRA AT THE UN. THUS FAR THEY HAVE NO VISAS FOR THEIR MOST IMPORTANT STOP, JAKARTA. THE DRA AMBASSADOR IN NEW DELHI, WHO HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO VISIT SAARC COUNTRIES HAS BEEN DENIED A VISA TO DHAKA. DEPUTY MINISTER ZARIFI WILL ATTEMPT TO VISIT 17 CAPITALS IN AFRICA; PAKHTAR INFORMATION CHIEF YURISH WILL VISIT THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN AFRICA. DANESHOJ HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN SWAZILAND, KENYA, UGANDA, ZAMBIA AND OTHER AFRICAN CAPITALS. A TURKISH EMBASSY SOURCE (PROTECT) RELATES THAT ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM ANKARA THE EMBASSY TOLD THE DRA MFA THAT WHILE SARWAR YURISH MAY TRAVEL TO TURKEY (NO VISA IS REQUIRED FOR AFGHAN TRAVEL THERE) NO ONE IN THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL ABLE TO SEE HIM. WHEN INFORMED OF THE TURKISH DECISION ON THE VISIT, THE MFA REPRESENTATIVE OBSERVED THAT YURISH MIGHT GO TO ANKARA ANYWAY AND HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE DRA EMBASSY.

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INFO RUEHHU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 08 OF 09 KARUL 1359

(U) (CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF INTERVIEW:) IN AN UNDATED, EXCERPTED INTERVIEW CARRIED IN THE JULY 30 KARUL NEW TIMES, CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES LT. GENERAL TANAI CLAIMED, INTER ALIA, THAT THE "ARMED EXTREMISTS HAVE SO FAR VIOLATED THE CEASEFIRE 11,438 TIMES." HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT AMONG WEAPONS CAPTURED BY DRA FORCES FROM THE MUJAHIDIN WERE 11 STINGER AND BLOWPIPE MISSILES. (PUMORS OF A NON-PARTY GOVERNMENT:) A SENIOR AFGHAN BUSINESSMAN CLAIMS THAT SINCE JANUARY THE SOVIETS HAVE SPURRED EFFORTS TO CONSTITUTE A GROUP WHICH MIGHT FUNCTION AS A "GOVERNMENT WITHOUT THE PARTY", SPECIFICALLY ENLISTING PARTICIPATION OF PROMINENT NON-PARTY AFGHANS IN AFGHANISTAN AND ABROAD. THE PRINCIPAL ORGANIZER REPORTEDLY IS DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PAZHWAQ WHO WAS SENT ABROAD TO SEEK SUPPORT AMONG SENIOR AFGHAN REFUGEES FOR THE CONCEPT. (COMMENT: PAZHWAQ TRAVELED TO THE U.S. RECENTLY VIA MOSCOW AND PRAGUE.) ANOTHER

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 00 OF 00 KARUL 1350

(F) (DRA SEEKS INVITATION TO REGIONAL SPORTS MEET:) THE DRA REPORTEDLY IS ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN AN INVITATION FOR ITS ATHLETES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE "SOUTH ASIAN FEDERATIONS GAMES" TO BE HELD IN CALCUTTA IN NOVEMBER. (SEE KARUL 1343 FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS).)

(F) (IAM MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN KARUL:) AN INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE MISSION SOURCE RELATES THAT THE ORGANIZATION DAILY CONDUCTS APPROXIMATELY 25 OPERATIONS, MOST OF THEM RELATED TO WAR WOUNDS.

A "WORLD VISION" REPRESENTATIVE CURRENTLY IS IN KARUL MEETING WITH REGIME OFFICIALS BEFORE SETTING UP SHOP UNDER THE IAM UMBRELLA.

(4) (TURKS PRESS FOR ACCESS TO REPORTED PRISONER:) THE TURKISH EMBASSY IS REQUESTING ACCESS TO A TURKISH CITIZEN LISTED IN A "DRA PUBLICATION" AS HAVING BEEN DETAINED ON SPY CHARGES.

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(II) (THE ICRC IN KARUL:) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE HEAD OF THE AFGHAN RED CRESCENT SOCIETY, SCRAVA.

WILL TRAVEL TO GENEVA AUGUST 15 TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR ICRC ASSISTANCE TO RED CRESCENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS IN THE KARUL AREA. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SIGNING, FOUR ICRC PERSONNEL WILL BE DISPATCHED FROM GENEVA TO KARUL TO BEGIN ASSISTANCE TO THE PROGRAM.

[REDACTED] THAT WHILE ICRC ENVISAGES A LOCAL STAFF EVENTUALLY OF 150 HE DENIES THAT CURRENT LOCAL EMPLOYEES NUMBER THAT MANY (VICE REPORT REFTEL). PLACING THE LOCAL STAFF LEVEL AT 15 "PLUS SOME CONSTRUCTION WORKERS." HE CLAIMED THAT ONE ADDITIONAL STAFF [REDACTED] PROJECT WOULD BE ARRIVING "NEXT WEEK" FROM GENEVA.

21. MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. SALUN

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